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# INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Soviet OB in Mark Brandenburg

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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## Summer Maneuvers

a. As of 20 July 1948, part of the Fourth Army was preparing to move for summer maneuvers; this Army occupies part of Mecklenburg and the Altmark, with headquarters in the Encke Barracks, Magdeburg. Elements of the First [Guards Mechanized] Army and Eighth [Guards] Army also are preparing to go on maneuvers.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: Except for the bracketed portions above, source has called the tune correctly in naming two of three armies. "Fourth Army" might be interpreted as Fourth Guards Mechanized Army but this would not agree with the accepted locations of the latter. This is the fourth source in recent months to make such identification without any apparent confusion with either Fourth Guards Mechanized Army or IV Artillery Corps. Our last report on the Encke Barracks, Magdeburg, (6-8 April 1948, F-3) stated that a headquarters staff was billeted there and that 40 vehicles in the compound [REDACTED] 25X1C

25X1C [REDACTED] do not appear on any available list of Soviet  
25X1C [REDACTED] in Germany. Further inquiry will be attempted.)

b. Southbound troop movements began in mid-July from the Hagenow-Schwerin-Wittenburg area. Armored and mechanized units engaged in this move are believed to be headed for the Eisenach-Kindl or Ohrdruf training areas. Units stationed in Magdeburg, Stendal, and Gardelegen are about to proceed to Dollé (Y63) in the Letzlinger Heide. (Jagdschloss Letzlingen, 10 kilometers northwest of Dollé, was Fourth Army headquarters from June to autumn 1947). Currently there is lively truck traffic between Dollé and komendaturny in Stendal and Gardelegen.

2. Rathenow (Z15)

a. Fourth Artillery Corps troops on furlough from Altengraefow have said that Corps units now in the latter training area would not return to Rathenow at the end of July, but would go to Thuringia for assembly in the Erfurt area.

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25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: In support of Paragraph 2a, source offers the contradictory statement that "all" indigenous personnel at Rafter barracks have been given notice and "some" of them given four week paid vacations.)

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

[illegible]

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~3. Gardelegen (Y44)

The Gardelegen-Stendal road has been closed between Gardelegen and Jävenitz (Y54). A former German airfield, once used by the parachute troop school in Stendal, is being reconstructed north of the road.

4. Brandenburg (Z23)

a. A unit with 203 mm howitzers was shifted to Altengrabow in early June and was replaced in Brandenburg by an AF "brigade" which includes two battalions of 76 mm AT guns 42, with vehicles [REDACTED] 25X1C and two battalions of 100 mm AT guns 44, with vehicles [REDACTED] 25X1C Also in Brand-25X1C  
enburg is an AA battalion with 85 mm motorized guns and vehicles in [REDACTED] 25X1C

b. Only a few planes have been seen at Neuendorf airfield recently (Z25). Briest airfield (Z15) is being reconstructed.

5. Oranienburg (Z67)

a. According to Soviet officers, the armored regiment stationed in the former concentration camp is an armored corps cadre which, up to early June, was subordinate to armored headquarters in Eberswalde (V08). Since mid-June, this cadre has been placed under an army in Fürstenberg (U62) /Second Guards Mech Army/, receiving its tactical orders and supplies from an armored division in Neuruppin /presumably 12 Guards Tank Division/.

b. It is claimed that this cadre is the only unit ready for action /not explained/. It is now changing its old tanks for JS-3's, 36 of which arrived on 14 July.

c. The cadre's replacement and recruit depots are located in Borgsdorf (Z77), Schmachtenhagen (Z77), Germerndorf (Z67), Eden (Z67), Zühlisdorf (Z87), Zehlendorf (Z87) and Summt (Z86). Strength of the training units is estimated at approximately 15,000 men. After basic infantry training, the men are assigned to armored units, receiving appropriate training at the Borgsdorf tank school. Officers receive field training and map work in the Fürstenberg-Löwenberg area.

d. An AT brigade evacuated Borgsdorf, 13 July, on two southbound freight trains, each train hauling 35-40 AT guns.

e. Contrary to reports, no civilian prisoners in the Oranienburg camp were released after physical examination in May 1948. Only those unfit for work and the few who adopted the party line were released; the others were shipped to Russia via Frankfurt/Oder.

6. Germerndorf (Z67)

Germerndorf airfield is occupied by approximately 3,000 men. Observed on the field were thirty PE-2, twelve PE-3, and five PO-2 aircraft. The PE dive bombers practise bomb release work over the Kremmen marshes (Z57).

7. Schönwalde (Z65)

On 18 July, an unreported number of PE-2 and PE-3 bombers were seen at this field. These planes also train over the Kremmen area.

8. Eberswalde (V08)

It is believed that the mechanized division in Bad Freienwalde and the armored division in Eberswalde have moved into the Ludwigslust-Hagenow area (T55-T24). Courier service has been started between Hagenow and Eberswalde.

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